TREATMENT OF PARTITION IN THE NOVELS OF MALE AND FEMALE WRITERS

A COMPARATIVE STUDY

SYNOPSIS

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TREATMENT OF PARTITION IN THE NOVELS OF MALE AND FEMALE WRITERS: A COMPARATIVE STUDY

The fruit of Indian Freedom Struggle was not sweet as desired by the people and the freedom fighters of India because of on major set-back namely Partition of India into India and Pakistan. Ever since the Indian Rebellion Act 1857, the people of India were given to believe that the Indian Independent Movement was for the release of India from the British Rule as one continent. When the unity between the Indian national Congress and the Muslim League was established, there was no clue about the division of India into a Hindu country – India and a Muslim country – Pakistan. If this had been known to the people of India, they would not have given the unconditional cooperation and sacrifice for the success of the Indian Freedom Movement. Thus the partition of India in 1947 along with the freedom from India was a fruit of bitterness for the majority of Indians.

The Partition of India is an event which has aroused the creative intuition in many writers of both genders. Whereas the novels of Partition by the male and female writers have been explored separately in the field of research, a comparative study of the treatment of Partition of India in the novels of male writers and female writers remains unexplored. Since such a study is expected to expose the sameness and differences in the sensibility of male and female in terms of their political, social, religious and gender priorities and perceptions in treating the Partition of India as the subject in their novels, such a study is undertaken in this proposed research.

While Khushwant Singh's *Train to Pakistan*; Chaman Nahal's *Azadi*; Kamleshwar's *Partitions*; Salman Rushdi's *Midnight's Children*; and Yashpal's *This is Not That Dawn* are chosen from the male writers, Bapsi Sidhwa's *Ice Candy Man (Cracking India);* Veera Hiranandani's *The Night Diary*; Attia Husain's *Sunlight on the Broken Colum*n; Urvashi

Butalia's *The Other Side of Silence*; and Anita Rau Badami's *Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?* are chosen from the female writers.

Plan of the Proposed Study

The plan of the proposed study is to compare the creative sensibility of male and female writers in treating the Partition of India in their novels in the structure as follows:

Introduction

In Introduction, after stating the aim of the proposed study namely to distinguish the sensibility of male writers from that of the female writers in dealing with the Partition of India in their novels, the methodology adopted namely the comparative method and the structure of the thesis, a detailed account of the history of Partition of India is provided followed a brief note on the career of the selected writers as novelists is rendered.

Chapter I: Literature Review

In this chapter, the reviews, research articles and books on the selected novels are reviewed in order to highlight the fact that the present study is new and advanced in the field of research.

Chapter II: Treatment of Partition of India in the Novels of Male Writers – A Study

In this chapter, the five novels of five male writers are analyzed with reference to:

(i) the author's priorities about the Impact of Partition of India

(ii) Treatment of Partition of India from Socio-political-religious point of view

(iii) The author's world-view on Partition of India

Chapter III: Treatment of Partition of India in the Novels of Female Writers – A Study

In this chapter, the five novels of five female writers are analyzed with reference to:

(i) the author's priorities about the Impact of Partition of India

(ii) Treatment of Partition of India from Socio-political-religious point of view

(iii) The author's world-view on Partition of India

Chapter IV: Treatment of Partition of India in the Novels of Male and Female Writers – A Comparative Study

In this Chapter, the author's priorities about the Impact of Partition of India, Treatment of Partition of India from Socio-political-religious point of view and the author's world-view on Partition of India in the novels of male and female writers are compared separately.

Conclusion

The summary of the study undertaken in all the previous chapters is presented. The inference about the distinction in the creative intuition/sensibility of the male and female writers in the treatment of Partition of India in their novels drawn on the basis of the results obtained with regard to the similarities and differences from the comparative study.